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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY AND PLANT QUARANTINE

Washington, D. C.

April 5, 1937.

Mr. A. C. Ringland,
Chairman, Flood Control Coordinating Committee,
Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ringland:

We have forwarded to various members of the Bureau who were listed as contact officers in the field copies of the information which has been issued by the Flood Control Coordinating Committee.

Mr. D. C. Parman of the Bureau is one of the contact officers. In studying the instructions for preparing preliminary examination reports on water sheds, Mr. Parman has suggested the desirability of including another item on which information should be secured. He suggests the gathering of data regarding distribution by flood waters of noxious weed seeds. He states that from his observations and experience one of the greatest losses sustained from floods in some areas is the infestation of farm and pasture lands by noxious weeds resulting from the distribution of seeds by flood waters. He adds that crop production in some of the most fertile valleys may be practically prevented for one or two years after flooding because of the large number of noxious weeds.

Yours very truly,

S. A. Rohwer
Liaison Representative, Bureau
of Entomology & Plant Quarantine, Flood
Control Coordinating Committee.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF EXPERIMENT STATION

Washington

April 16, 1937.

Director M. J. Funchess,
Agricultural Experiment Station,
Auburn, Alabama.

Dear Director Funchess:

I am quite sure that you are familiar with the general provisions of the Flood Control Act of June 22, 1936 approved at the last session of Congress. This Act for the first time in flood control legislation provides for the participation of the Department of Agriculture in the development of a program with the War Department. It is provided that hereafter Federal investigations and improvements of waterways for flood control shall be carried out by the Secretary of War and investigations of watersheds for the purpose of run-off retardation and soil erosion prevention shall be carried out by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Pursuant to this policy Congress has directed that the War Department and the Department of Agriculture carry out preliminary examinations and surveys on some 222 waterways and watersheds. The superficial area embraced in these examinations now totals one-third of the continental United States. It is anticipated that many more watersheds will be added at this session of Congress.

The vastness of the task to be assumed by the Department of Agriculture will necessitate cooperation not only with Federal agencies but with many State and other organizations as well. With this in mind the Flood Control Coordinating Committee has requested the cooperation of the Directors of the various State Experiment Stations. The work of this Committee has been decentralized by the establishment of field coordinating committees using throughout the country the regional facilities of the Soil Conservation Service and the Forest Service. The personnel of these committees and the watersheds for which they are responsible for examinations are given in the attached circular of February 23.

One of the principal duties of the field committees will be to bring together from authentic sources all available information for each watershed. I feel sure that you will be willing to make available for reference such of your records as may be useful in establishing the facts for each watershed. In order that this may be done without confusion I have requested that only the chairmen of the field committees, or their authorized representatives, act for the Department of Agriculture. Any assistance you can give these authorized representatives through locating and making available factual data will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,
/s/ James T. Jardine,
Chief,
Office of Experiment Stations.

